covered during the searches is as follows:—

Cash	Rs. 14,000/-
LIC Policies . . .	Rs. 1 lakh
N.S.C.	Rs. 39,000/-
Movable assests .	Rs. 79,000/-
Immovable assests . .	Rs. 6,35,000/-

In addition some incriminating documents have also been seized.

(c) No action has been taken yet since the investigation is not over.

Hardship faced by imported due to hike in customs duty

1296. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while making changes in the import policy or in the import and export duties enough time is permitted to mitigate the hardship that might arise to the importers/exporters in respect of the items which are under way;

(b) whether it is a fact that recently while increasing project import duty from 55 per cent to 85 per cent no such time was allowed, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received complaints from importers against increase in the rate of customs duty on project imports from 55 per cent to 85 per cent especially with respect to capital goods for which licences have already been issued and open irrevocable letter of credit given before the announcement of budget or where the goods were intransit; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to mitigate the hardship of the concerned importers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) Changes in import duty take immediate effect and there is no provision for continuing to charge the earlier rate of import duty on the goods which are on the way. So far as the project rate of duty which changed on 1-3-87 is concerned, a number of representations were received and in order to mitigate the financial hardship of the importers, the IDBI and other financial institutions have already announced the facility of making available to these importers additional finance expeditiously for paying the customs duty at the enhanced rate on project import goods where such goods are in the pipeline.

Modernisation of Army

1297. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what measures are being undertaken for modernisation of the Army, particularly to bring about qualitative improvement in combat readiness; and

(b) what is the extent to which computerisation, particularly computer-aided designing, has been introduced and what are the plans for future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) By means of an on-going process of modernisation, it is ensured that the Army is always in a maximum state of combat readiness. Some of the important thrust areas in this process of modernisation include: